

HANDBOOK OF PHONOLOGICAL DATA
FROM A SAMPLE OF THE WORLD'S LANGUAGES

A Report of the Stanford Phonology Archive

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645 Asmat	645 Asmat	645 Asmat
	(free)	
645 01 p [p-unreleased] ⁶⁰ [phi] ³⁰ (free) [p-nasal-release] ⁶⁰ (free)	08 m [b] ^{03 63} [b-prenasalized] ⁶⁴ (free)	51 i [iota] ⁶⁷ (free) [u-trema] ⁶⁶ (free)
645 02 p-labialized ³¹ (limited)	10 n [d] ^{03 63} [d-prenasalized] ⁶⁴ (free)	52 e [epsilon] ^{41 42 68} (allo, free) [o-trema] ⁶⁶
645 03 t [t-unreleased] ⁶⁰ [t-nasal-release] ⁶⁰ (free)	13 r-flap ³⁶ [r-trill] ³⁷ (limited, free)	54 a [a-front] ⁶⁹ [ash] ⁷⁰ (free) [schwa] ⁴³ (neutral, allo)
645 04 k [k-unreleased] ⁶⁰ [x] ³² (free) [k-nasal-release] ⁶⁰ (free)	16 s-hacek ⁴⁰ (limited)	55 u [u-dot] ⁷¹ (free)
645 05 t/s-hacek [t-palatalized] ⁶¹ (free)	17 theta ⁴⁰ (limited)	56 o-open [o] ⁷² (allo, free) [e-trema] ⁷³ (free)
645 06 f	18 j-fricative [d/z-hacek] ⁶⁵ (free) [yod] ⁶⁵ (free)	
645 07 s [s-lax] ^{02 62}		58 w

645 \$a Asmat \$b Flamingo Bay \$d Central and South New Guinea \$e SC West Irian \$f 40,000 \$g Merritt Ruhlen \$g Marilyn Vihman (review) \$g John Crothers (editor)

645 \$a Voorhoeve, C. L. \$b 1965 \$c The Flamingo Bay dialect of the Asmat language \$g The Hague: Smits

645 \$a CREAKY VOICE VOWELS \$a CREAKY VOICE CONSONANTS \$A "Laryngealization of vowels and voiced consonants occurs when the speaker is quoting a word or words shouted by a crowd of people. When the speaker is speaking softly, laryngealization can result in unvoicing." (p.22)

645 \$a LONG VOWELS \$A Prolongation of vowels occurs in interjections, in onomatopoeia, and in one adjective, to indicate great intensity. (p.21f)

645 \$a MARGINAL SPEECH SOUNDS \$A [m-preglottalized] occurs as an interjection, indicating a vigorous start. [n-palatalized] occurs sometimes in onomatopoeia. [b-trill] is an interjection, used for something beautiful. [h] occurs in the sign for agreement and in the interjection [h.a], "ah." [t/s-click] expresses annoyance. (p.23)

645 \$a PHONOLOGICAL WORD \$A initial C: all but /r-flap/ \$A final C: all C \$A medial CC: no geminates; /t/s-hacek/ cannot be first C (replaced by /t/); /t.t/s-hacek/ cannot occur (replaced by /t/s-hacek/) (p.31ff)

645 \$a STRESS \$A The stressed syllables of a word are marked by a change in pitch, or in some cases by lengthening. The general pattern is one of alternating stresses. In monomorphemic words the last syllable is usually stressed, with a secondary stress on the first syllable of three syllable words. However there are a number of exceptional disyllables which stress the first rather than the second syllable, and one example is given of a trisyllable with penultimate stress. Voorhoeve gives stress rules for polymorphemic words, but there are many obvious exceptions in the words cited in the text. The general rule is that the first morpheme is stressed in the normal way, and the remaining stresses alternate. The first stress is followed by two unstressed syllables if (a) it is followed by three monosyllabic morphemes, the last of which is final or penultimate in the word, (b) it is followed by a monosyllabic plus a disyllabic morpheme, (c) it is itself the first syllable of an initially stressed disyllabic morpheme (the irregular type of stress) and is followed by a disyllabic morpheme. However, a number of disyllabic compounds are stressed finally, rather than initially, as Voorhoeve notes. Also, many words cited show unstressed initial morphemes, a point not explained by Voorhoeve. (See p.23-31.) [JHC]

- 645 \$a SYLLABLE \$A (C)V(C)
- 645 02 \$A "The phonetic quality of this allophone [s-lax] is difficult to define by ear. I found it markedly similar to a voiceless glottal fricative [h]. When, however, I deliberately pronounced an [h] in such cases, my informants thought it ridiculous. It is probably a weak alveolar fricative." (p.18)
- 645 03 \$A "In initial position the voiced stop is often preceded by a very weak homorganic nasal." (p.19)
- 645 04 \$A /b-trill/ is described as "a bilabial trill with 'mouth air' [cf. Pike, Phonetics, p.93]." (p.23)
- 645 30 \$A "[phi] alternates with [p], it would seem, only in the sequence /V.p.V.p.V/." (p.17)
- 645 31 \$A "[p-labialized] is used only by older people. It could not be established whether it is a social characteristic, for instance, a sign of status. It occurs only before the vowel /e/." (p.17)
- 645 32 \$A "[x] as an alternant of [k] was found only in a few cases; in the cases noted, [x] always follows a vowel." (p.17f)
- 645 36 \$A /r-flap/ does not occur initially or post-consonantly. (p.18)
- 645 37 \$A [r-trill] alternating with [r-flap] "was found only in the speech of small children and in the speech of the regular informants. It is not beyond question that a consequence of the latter regularly speaking Malay with [r-trill], is their using it now and then in their mother tongue." (p.18)
- 645 40 \$A "[s-hacek] and [theta] occur especially in the speech of older people. I got the impression that they are not alternants of [s], but that [s-hacek] and [theta] are distributed throughout the vocabulary in a way which varies from person to person." (p.18)
- 645 41 \$A [epsilon] varies freely with /e/ in open syllables, with a tendency to harmonize with allophonically higher or lower mid-vowels in the final syllable. (p.13)
- 645 42 \$A [epsilon] occurs word-finally in a few words and "in a kindly manner of speaking," especially in women's speech. (p.21)
- 645 43 \$A /schwa/ varies with each of the other vowels in unstressed position, in certain words, and in stressed position when the word is not spoken in isolation. Where /schwa/ alone occurs (with no variation with other vowels), it is apparently always in unstressed position. (p.14) [MV]
- 645 60 \$A Stops are usually unreleased word-finally. Nasal release sometimes occurs before "hesitation pause." (p.17)
- 645 61 \$A /t/s-hacek/ may be realized as [t-palatalized] word-finally." (p.17)
- 645 62 \$A /s/ may be realized as [s-lax] post-vocalically. (p.18)
- 645 63 \$A /m/ and /n/ are realized as [b] and [d] word-initially and after a heterorganic nasal consonant. (p.19)
- 645 64 \$A /m/ and /n/ may be realized as the corresponding prenasalized stop intervocalically, when no nasal or final /a/ follows." (p.19)
- 645 65 \$A /j-fricative/ may be realized as [d/z-hacek] or [yod] word-initially. (p.19)
- 645 66 \$A /i/ (optionally) and /e/ (obligatorily) are rounded (realized as [u-tremal] and [o-tremal]) before /w/ followed by a consonant or word-boundary. (p.13)
- 645 67 \$A /i/ occasionally varies with [iota] before a final consonant. (p.13) ("In a small number of words...[iota]...generally occurs.")
- 645 68 \$A /e/ is lowered to [epsilon] in a closed syllable (except before /w/). (p.13)
- 645 69 \$A /a/ is realized as [a-front] word-finally. (p.12) (Voorhoeve also indicates a slight degree of fronting is optional in other open syllables.)
- 645 70 \$A /a/ varies freely with [ash] when the vowel of the preceding or following syllable is /i/. (p.12f)
- 645 71 \$A /u/ is centralized to [u-dot] when alveolar or palato-alveolar consonants precede or follow, in fast or unemphatic speech. (p.14)
- 645 72 \$A /o-open/ is realized as [o] word-finally and before /w/, if preceded by /t/s-hacek/ or

/j-fricative/, and optionally if not preceded by /t/s-hacek/ or /j-fricative/. (p.13)

645 73 \$A /o-open/ may become [e-trema] where either /s/ or /t/ precede and follow, and between
/j-fricative/ and /r-flap/ or /t/s-hacek/. (p.14)